

D-1706

SEPARATE from
PREVIOUS SERIES

HANSONS.

GEOFFREY HERBERT WRIGHT.
ARTHUR CONRAD HOLBOROW.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS.
"PROFESSOR" SHANGHAI.

CODES
A. S. C.
WESTERN UNION.
BENTLEY'S.

JEB/KLK

SHANGHAI
C. & S. B. REC.
S. S. B. D. 1706.
19 11 30
Shanghai.

17th November, 1930.

Dear Sir,

re R.W. Wedderburn deceased.

We are ^{much} obliged for your letter of the 11th inst.,
enclosing a translation of a report made by the Captain of the
S.S. "Dairen Maru" in connection with the above matter.

Yours faithfully,

Hansons

R.C. Aiers Esq.,

Deputy Commissioner of Police
(Crime & Special Branches).

*Recd
17/11*

RECORDED
C. & S. D. REC.
No. S. B. D. 1706
date 11 - 11 - 30.

November II, 30.

Gentlemen,

* Sent. 11/11. *Hub*
With reference to your letter of
November 7, 1930, concerning the late
Mr. R.W. Wedderburn, I forward herewith, as
requested, ^{translation of} a copy of a report made by the
Captain of the s.s. "Dairen Maru".

The Japanese Consular Authorities,
as far as can be ascertained, are taking no
action in the matter.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

Acar
Deputy Commissioner
(Crime & Special Branches)

Messrs. Hansons,

7 Peking Road,

Shanghai.

Memorandum.

POLICE FORCE,
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL,

Shanghai, 10. 11. 1930

To C. S. B. Bay.

Please obtain file +
have copy of Captain's
report with draft reply
forwarded; also ascertain
if inquiry is being
made by Jap. Auth.

Hillier
P. 10. 11.

HANSONS.

GEOFFREY HERBERT WRIGHT.
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TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS,
"PROFESSOR" SHANGHAI.

CODES
A. B. C.
WESTERN UNION.
BENTLEY'S.

JEB/TKT

*7. Peking Road,
Shanghai.*

7th November 1930.

Dear Sir,

We have been instructed by the Executor of the Will of the late Mr. R.W. Wedderburn to apply to the Supreme Court for Probate, and for this purpose it will be necessary to file an affidavit setting out the circumstances of his being missed.

The best person to make this will be the Captain of the S.S. "Dairen Maru", who is away from Shanghai at the moment but will be back next week.

We understand that the Police have a copy of the report made by the Captain to the Dairen Kishen Kaisha, and we should be much obliged if you would kindly let us have a copy of this report, in order that we may prepare the affidavit which we shall ask the Captain to make.

We should also be obliged if you could inform us whether any Court of Inquiry is being held by the Japanese Consular authorities.

Yours faithfully,

Hansons.

R. C. Aiers Esq.,

Deputy Commissioner of Police.

*8/11 (C.C.S.)
len*

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

File No. _____
 S. B. REC. S. Station,
 No. S. B. D. 1706
 Date 2nd November 1930
 4-11-30

Subject (in full) Further enquiries into the disappearance of Mr. Wedderburn

Made by D.S.I. Thurgood Forwarded by

Sir,

The undersigned accompanied by D.S. Kobayashi proceeded to the S.S. Dairen Maru berthed at the Whangpoo Wharf and ascertained the following facts:

Mr. Sato, 1st class cabin steward was questioned; he stated that Mr. Wedderburn occupied a cabin under his charge and that since leaving Dairen Mr. Wedderburn had not attended any of his meals, also that he never appeared to properly settle down. At night when he went to bed he never

properly undressed himself, or got properly into bed. On the evening of the 31st October he served Mr. Wedderburn with three whiskey and sodas, and that during the whole day he understands that 8 or 9 drinks were served to him but that Mr. Wedderburn was in no way intoxicated. At dinner time on the evening of the 31st October when the cabin boy went to call him for dinner Mr. Wedderburn stated that he did not wish any dinner but that he would like some ham sandwiches.

At 7 a.m. on November 1st, the cabin boy went to Mr. Wedderburn cabin. Mr. Wedderburn got up and left the cabin and proceeded to the Coffee Verandah, at 8.30 a.m. this man not having appeared for breakfast the cabin steward went to call Mr. Wedderburn to tell him that breakfast was ready, but could not find him anywhere so made a report to the Purser.

When questioned as to the actions of the missing man, the cabin steward stated that he appeared like a man who was worried and sad. Upon the ship's arrival at Tsingtau the missing man went ashore for about one hour.

Mr. C. Takaki, Purser, stated that when the ship left Dairen Mr. Wedderburn came to him and requested that he be

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

Station.

Date _____ 19____

Subject (in full) _____

Made by.

Forwarded by:

Sheet No 2.

allotted a cabin by himself, this was granted on payment of Yen 20 extra. At Tsingtau a number of passengers were transferred from the Tientsin Maru to the Dairen Maru on account of the first named ship having been in collision. This necessitated putting another passenger in the same cabin as Mr. Wedderburn. This passenger was a Chinese gentleman named "Zoh Nai Zung (This man's name was obtained from the passenger list, his address is not known at present) Mr. Wedderburn strenuously objected to this, but was told by the Purser it could not be helped. The Purser stated that he was told by this Chinese passenger that Mr. Wedderburn did not speak to him once and that he got up at 3.30 a.m. on the morning of November 1st and went out. Mr. Takaki stated that as soon as he was informed that this man was missing he conducted a thorough search of the vessel together with other ship's Officers but no trace was found of him and it was presumed he had jumped overboard. On the morning of November 1st, according to the cabin steward and Purser, about the time Mr. Wedderburn disappeared it was raining and rather cold, and being breakfast time would preclude other passengers from being on deck at that time of the morning.

A copy of the Captain's report is attached to this file.

S. D. 2/5 N

attach translation
of Captain's report.

I am Sir,

Your Obedient servant

W. L. Thompson
D.S.I.

Complete Com
file H.B. W
V.C. for J. W.
Sent
4.11.32

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No. _____

REPORT

Station, _____

Date _____ 19

Subject (in full) _____

Made by _____

Forwarded by _____

Translation of Captain's report.

Reported by Shiro Hirao, Captain of S.S. Dairen Maru.

Case happened about 9 a.m. 1/11/30.

Longitude 122,25 degree

Latitude 31,40 "

Between Tsingtau and Shanghai.

Missing person, 1st class passenger, British Subject, male

Mr. Robert William Wedderburn, aged 46. Publisher.

The above mentioned person boarded the steamer (No 200 voyage) from Dairen to Shanghai as a 1st class passenger.

On the 1/11/30 about 9 a.m. discovered this man missing from the ship between Tsingtau and Shanghai. A thorough search was made of the ship but no trace of this man could be found.

The man's effects were packed and handed over to a Japanese Consulate Officer who came to the steamer and was requested to take the necessary actions.

Signed: Captain of S.S. Dairen Maru.

Shiro Hirao.

Description of property:

One suite case containing 1 pair of brown shoes, 1 comb, brush, four books, a pair of spectacles, one tin of tobacco, one pipe, two neckties, nine letters, one toilet bag, one pair slippers, one passport, safety razor, tin talcum powder, 2 cigars, cigarette box containing 13 cigarettes.

One purse containing: Cash Yen 80; Bank of Chosen Notes.

\$7 Mex, 5 coppers, 10 cent note.

One envelope containing \$102,

" " " \$320,

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

Station, _____

Date _____ 19

Subject (in full) _____

Made by _____

Forwarded by _____

Six J.T/B. \$20 cheques. Total \$120.

One Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Cheque \$10

one J.T.B. confidential letter.

One black travelling leather trunk containing:

one shawl, five neckties, one cap, 16 handkerchiefs, 6 pair

stockings, seven collars, 9 shirts, two single collars,

trousers press, three suits of pyjamas, one raincoat, one

sweater, one night dress, 3 suits of underwear, one swimming

costume, one pair white trousers, three suits, one pair

black shoes, two pair brown shoes, one overcoat, one key

purse,

This property was witness by 1st class passenger Zoh Nan

Zung, and 1st Engineer Mr. Kanichi Hama.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

Wayside _____

Station, _____

REPORT

Date I-II- 1930.

Subject (in full) Disappearance of Mr R.W.Wedderburn, whilst he was travelling to Shanghai (from Dairen) by S/S Dairen Maru.

Made by D.S.Kourjansky.Forwarded by D.S.G. Thurgood

Sir,

At 7.30 p.m. I-II-30 this Station was visited by Mr A.G. Glover of the Kelly Walsh Co Ltd, 22 Nanking Rd, who stated, that Mr R.W.Wedderburn, British, age 46, managing director of the above Company, was a passenger travelling to Shanghai from Dairen by the S/S Dairen Maru, due to arrive to Shanghai at 4 p.m. I-II-30.

On arrival to Shanghai (D.K.K. Wharf) a ship was met by his friends Mr J.H.Searly and Mr Waller, who were informed by ship's officers that Mr R.W.Wedderburn had been missing since 8 a.m. I-II-30.

The matter was immediately conveyed by the above named persons to Mr A.G.Glover, who reported the occurrence at this Station.

He states, that before Mr R.W.Wedderburn went on summer holidays to Dairen (in the beginning of October 1930), he (Mr Wedderburn) had an illusion that he was being followed by someone unknown.

Mr A.G.Glover also states, that he questioned the above ship's boy who stated that he saw Mr R.W.Wedderburn at about 7 a.m. I-II-30 on the deck and when he went round to call him for a breakfast, he did not find him. The whole ship was then thoroughly searched, but no trace of him found. That was 8 hours prior to the ship's arrival to Shanghai. Mr A.G.Glover, with the permission of captain of the ship, was allowed to enter the missing man's cabin, to see if he could find any letter or note, which might have been left by the above man prior to his disappearance, but nothing was found. All Mr R.W.Wedderburn's effects were taken in possession of captain of the ship. The captain also informed Mr A.G.Glover, that he is going to make official report regarding the occurrence and forward it to the Authorities concerned.

Mr A.G.Glover, accompanied by D.S.I. Thurgood, visited Mr Blackburn

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No. _____

REPORT

Wayside _____ Station, _____

Date I-II-30. 19

Subject (in full) Disappearance of Mr R.W. Wedderburn, whilst he was travelling to Shanghai (from Dairen) by S/S Dairen Maru (Continued).

Made by D.S. Kourjansky Forwarded by _____

at the H.B.M. Consulate, who was informed of the above man's disappearance and stated, that nothing could be done and that the Consulate would get in touch with the Japanese Authorities with a view to handing over the effects of the missing man.

I am Sir,

Yours obediently

D.S. Kourjansky
D.S.

D.C. (C. & S. B.)

For your information

In Enquiry.

D.D.O.D.

Further enquiry are proceeding

In Enquiry.

Kat

a fair

